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Diane Blevins

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Laurent HUMEAU et al.

Serial No.: 09/819,401

...,...

Filing Date: M

March 27, 2001

For:

IMPROVED CONDITIONALLY REPLICATING VECTORS FOR INHIBITING VIRAL INFECTIONS

Examiner: Bao Q. LI

Group Art Unit: 1648

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

REPLY AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Box AFAssistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action mailed October 10, 2002, time for response to which was set to expire January 10, 2003. This Reply, filed December 10, 2002, is thus believed to be timely filed within two months of the mailing of the Office Action.

Claims 1, 3-6 and 8-21 are pending and have been rejected. Reconsideration in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.